

## **5. Collaborating with the City's Environmental Commission**

The Environmental Commission has oversight of the Watershed Protection Department. During the course of the FMTF, the FMTF provided a briefing to the City's Environmental Commission on the progress of the FMTF.

After deliberation, the FMTF recommendation for the Environment Commission are:

1. When considering acquiring properties for green space or environmental protection, consider the benefits to life and safety in those acquisitions. Priority should be placed on acquiring properties that are within 100 year flood plans to mitigate flooding and provide flood buffer zones.
2. Ensure the Watershed Protection Department is funded and staffed at a level that ensures the maintenance and upkeep of the open and closed storm water systems to ensure public safety during massive rain events.
3. Review vegetation and riparian policies along open water drainage systems to ensure the policies are benefiting the public and not causing flooding, stoppage or backups of flood water.
4. Establish a public forum whereby citizens can address the oversight body of the Watershed Protection Department to voice grievances, and seek avenues for navigating the bureaucracy.
5. As the oversight committee of the Watershed Protection Department, review the effectiveness and efficiency of the WPD's performance measures as they relate to the maintenance of storm water drainage systems, to include maintenance of both open and closed water systems and the replacement of dilapidated closed water drainage systems.